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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF DENTISTRY

IN THE MATTER OF

LAWRENCE PIEKARSKY, D.M.D. License No. 22DI01586200

Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER

LICENSED TO PRACTICE DENTISTRY IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey State Board of Dentistry ("Board") preliminarily reviewed information regarding the dental practice of Lawrence Piekarsky, D.M.D. ("Dr. Piekarsky" or "respondent"), and in particular his conduct related to prescribing controlled dangerous substances, including Focalin (Schedule II), Adderall (Schedule II), Diazepam (Schedule IV), Provigil (Schedule IV), and Zolpidem (Schedule IV) for family members unrelated to a dental purpose. Based on that review, the Board offered, and respondent accepted, an interim consent order in which Dr. Piekarsky agreed to cease and desist from prescribing, dispensing or administering controlled dangerous substances and to use triplicate, sequentially numbered prescription pads. That order was entered on October 16, 2013.

Dr. Piekarsky appeared before the Board for an investigative inquiry on November 20, 2013, with his attorney, Anthony Fusco, Esq. Respondent admitted to writing prescriptions for his wife and three children for conditions unrelated to dental treatment. He testified that he wrote only for medications that had been prescribed previously by physicians who had treated his family members. Respondent acknowledged that prescribing the medications for a non-dental purpose was outside the scope of practice for licensed dentists and that he was not fully familiar with the medications he prescibed. He further acknowledged that he failed to maintain records for his family.

Having reviewed the record, including Dr. Piekarsky's testimony, the Board finds that respondent deviated from accepted standards for licensed dentists in this State. By prescribing controlled dangerous substances to family members unrelated to dental treatment and outside the scope of his practice, he has abused the privileges of his license, warranting a significant sanction.

These facts established basis for disciplinary action pursuant to: N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), for engaging in professional misconduct; N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(m) for the indiscriminate prescribing of controlled dangerous substances; and N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h) for failing to maintain adequate records as required by Board regulation. It appears that Respondent now desires to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings and for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS 5 DAY OF March, 2014,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Lawrence Piekarsky, D.M.D., is reprimanded for his conduct related to prescribing controlled dangerous substances for purposes unrelated to dental treatment.

- 2. Respondent shall surrender his Controlled Dangerous Substance registration to the Drug Control Unit, Division of Consumer Affairs upon the signing of this order. Any application to reinstate the registration shall be made to the Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs on notice to the Board. The Board specifically reserves the right, should respondent's registration be reinstated, to place limits on respondent's practice.
- 3. Respondent, at his sole expense, shall attend and document satisfactory completion of the following remedial continuing education courses: seven (7) hours in internal medicine; seven (7) hours in appropriate prescribing and pharmacology; four (4) hours in record keeping; and four (4) hours in ethics. All courses must be pre-approved by the Board and be completed within six months of the date of filing of this Consent Order. These courses are in addition to continuing education requirements for biennial renewal of respondent's license. Respondent shall submit a certificate of satisfactory completion to the Board within thirty days of completion of each course.
- 4. Respondent is assessed civil penalties, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22, in the amount of \$5,000. Payment of the civil penalties totaling \$5,000.00 shall be submitted by bank check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Jonathan Eisenmenger, Executive Director, P.O. Box 45005, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101 no later than thirty (30) days from the entry of this Consent Order. Subsequent violations will subject respondent to enhanced penalties pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25.
- 5. Respondent is assessed costs of \$ 4,603.89. Payment of costs shall be made by check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and submitted to Mr.

Eisenmenger at the address in paragraph 4 above no later than thirty (30) days from the entry of this Consent Order.

- 6. Failure to remit any payment required by this Consent Order will result in the filing of a certificate of debt and other action as permitted by law.
- 7. Failure to comply with any of the terms of this Consent Order may result in further disciplinary action.
- 8. The terms of the October 16, 2013, consent order related to use of triplicate prescription pads and submission of records related to prescribing shall continue until further order of the Board. Respondent may apply for relief from that requirement not sooner than one year following entry of this order.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Bv.

Shirley Birenz/R.D.H. Acting Board President

I have read and understand this Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms. I consent to the entry of this order.

Lawrence Piekarsky, D.M.D.

Date

I consent to the form and entry of this order.

Anthony Fusco, Bag.

Date